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SCORES UKRAINIAN STEEL PLANT LAG;
SOME PLANTS REPORT PROGRESS

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At present, the chief duty of party organizations, directors, and engineering personnel in metallurgical plants lies in bringing Stakhanovite methods to all workers and in introducing on a wide scale the achievements of science in metallurgical production.

Such measures as the neutralization of ores, control of the operation of blast furnaces according to the peripheral gases, use of chromomagnesite roofs in open-hearth furnaces, tempering of the rollers and decrease in the number of passes in rolling mill operation, are being introduced much too slowly, a condition which should not be tolerated. It is well known that measures such as these provide an increase in production and a considerable increase in labor productivity.

Despite the fact that metallurgy is the leading branch of industry in Dnepropetrovsk Oblast, the oblast party committee has not taken active control over it. Although the committee has claimed that it is taking measures to improve the situation, they are not apparent. The long, drawn-out lag of the "Krivbassruda" Trust is a matter of grave concern, since it is hampering the establishment of winter ore reserves for the metallurgical plants. Conditions have not improved at the oblast's worst enterprise, the Plant imeni Petrovskiy.

The committee is not doing anything about the weakening of party-political work in metallurgical enterprises, particularly at the Novo-Moskovsk Tin-Plate Rolling Plant. The rail and girder shop of the Plant imeni Petrovskiy has not held one workers' meeting for 7 months, although the shop has been lagging and is dragging the rest of the plant down with it.

The time has come for the committee to improve party work in metallurgical plants, increase the role of the primary party organizations, expand criticisms of the deficiencies hampering the development of metallurgy.

Particularly serious tasks await the Ukrainian metallurgists in their preparations for winter. Signs from a number of plants tell of the inefficient winter preparations of warehouses, trestles, equipment, and of slow stockpiling of raw material reserves. Party organizations must take control of this work and not permit a repeat of last winter's mistakes.(1)

Despite criticism leveled at the lag in the Krivoy Rog mines, and early September report states that miners of the Krivoy Rog Basin in September are continuing to increase ore output.(2)

Other reports from Ukrainian plants tell of new production records and of the first orders for steel products for the Kuybyshev and Stalingrad hydroelectric power projects.

At the Plant imeni Petrovskiy, workers at blast furnace No 4 have achieved a coefficient of 0.87 as compared with the norm of 0.96. This is the highest coefficient yet obtained in the blast furnace shop.(3) In addition, the plant has created a 2-month reserve supply of power coals, limestone, and auxiliary materials.(4)

The Dnepropetrovsk Steel Structures Plant imeni Molotov is producing heavy steel structures for the Volga power projects.(5) Last year, the plant produced as many steel structures as in the 3 years, 1940, 1944, and 1945, taken together.(6)

A leading Stakhanovite at furnace No 4 of the Plant imeni Dzerzhinskiy recently completed a high-speed, heavy-weight melt with a production of 9.35 tons of steel per square meter of hearth, almost double the new progressive norm. This is the highest record for the shop.(7)

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The Nikopol' Southern Pipe Plant obtained an order to produce 75 tons of drive pipe for the construction of the Kuybyshev power plant. The pipe was shipped to the project on 18 September, 3 days ahead of schedule.(8)

The Pipe-Rolling Plant in Stalino has already met the first order for pipe for the Kuybyshev power plant.(5)

On 19 September, the Stalino Metallurgical Plant imeni Stalin shipped out the first carload of rolled steel for the Kuybyshev project. In meeting this order, one rolling brigade was able to decrease the length of the cycle, from rolling to loading the finished product on railroad cars, to 16 hours as compared with the usual 24 hours.(9) The plant's workers have also decreased the time needed for furnace repair. Until recently, medium repair of open-hearth furnaces took from 12 to 15 days. Since then, plant engineers have worked out a new plan for organization of the work of dismantling the furnaces, laying of refractories, and delivery of repair materials to the work area. The plant follows the best methods available for these processes. The average length of the repairs has been decreased to 8-9 days. The Konstantinovka Plant is also adopting this plan.(10)

In September, the "Azovstal'" Plant is scheduled to roll and ship H-beams and girders for construction of the Volga power plants.(11)

The rail shop of the Yenakiyevo Metallurgical Plant has been given an order for 250 tons of narrow-gauge mine rails for use in building the Stalingrad power plant.(12) The full order was completed in one day, one shift ahead of schedule, on the "550" mill.(13)

The Lutugino Iron Casting Plant, Voroshilovgrad Oblast, is going to produce new-caliber, highly-durable rollers for the Makeyevka and Yenakiyevo metallurgical plants. These new rollers should enable the plants to meet orders of iron fittings for the Volga projects with high-speed methods.(14) The Makeyevka Plant is also producing water pipe for the projects.(15)

SOURCES

1. Kiev, Pravda Ukrainy, 14 Sep 50
2. Moscow, Komsomol'skaya Pravda, 6 Sep 50
3. Yerevan, Kommunist, 6 Sep 50
4. Moscow, Izvestiya, 13 Sep 50
5. Kiev, Pravda Ukrainy, 16 Sep 50
6. Kiev, Pravda Ukrainy, 31 Aug 50
7. Alma-Ata, Kazakhstanskaya Pravda, 7 Sep 50
8. Moscow, Trud, 19 Sep 50
9. Leningradskaya Pravda, 20 Sep 50
10. Vil'nyus, Sovetskaya Litva, 3 Sep 50
11. Moscow, Izvestiya, 15 Sep 50

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12. Moscow, Pravda, 10 Sep 50
13. Minsk, Sovetskaya Belorussiya, 8 Sep 50
14. Moscow, Krasnaya Zvezda, 17 Sep 50
15. Moscow, Izvestiya, 16 Sep 50

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